



June 20, 2011

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

We urge the FCC to support the AT&T- T-Mobile merger given that the potential benefits of enhanced coverage and access to next generation wireless broadband service will create new opportunities to expand real equality across our society.

If the merger is approved, 55 million more Americans will obtain the ability to access high speed internet service. The combined companies' commitment to build out its wireless broadband network will help close the digital divide, and take our nation one step closer to reaching President Obama's goal of ensuring that at least 98 percent of Americans have access to high speed broadband technologies—thus helping to bring first class digital citizenship to communities of color.

African Americans were early adopters of mobile broadband service and, today, are forty percent more likely than non-minority Americans to rely on wireless devices for primary access to broadband. For our community, mobile broadband is a cost effective personal communications and media tool with the power to speed civic engagement, advance education and job opportunities, and spur entrepreneurship among our small businesses. We cannot take full advantage of these opportunities without everyday access to these 21st century broadband technologies where we live and work.

We would also like to acknowledge that AT&T has a demonstrated record of diversity in hiring, promotions and procurement. We are confident that a combined AT&T and T-Mobile will establish an industry standard for a diverse and equitable work place as well as expand AT&T's best practices for supplier diversity. And, as a result of new investment of more than \$8 billion, this merger will create more quality jobs and business opportunities for African Americans and

other people of color so that they will be able to fairly compete for employment and economic opportunities. The potential for new jobs was recently noted in a study by the Communications Workers of America, which asserts that over 96,000 new jobs will be created if this merger is approved.

Today, our economy is at a historic crossroads as we transition toward becoming an information-based digital economy, and our society is being transformed by online delivery of information, services and entertainment. Our greatest opportunity for substantial and sustainable growth in jobs and business expansion lies in the digital sector, and broadband internet holds great promise for expanded, more equitable civic engagement. At this critical juncture, the merger of AT&T and T-Mobile best serves the public interest in general and communities of color in particular because it advances equality of opportunity that benefits our entire society.

Sincerely,

Joseph Muhammad

Joseph Muhammad, President

International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Neal", with a stylized, flowing script.

Rob Neal, President

International Black Broadcasters Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Robinson", with a stylized, flowing script.

Anthony Robinson, President

Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (MBELDEF)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Winston", with a stylized, flowing script.

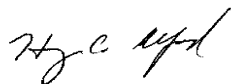
Jim Winston, Executive Director & General Counsel

National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters

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Vincent Wimbish, President & CEO

National Association of Real Estate Brokers



Harry Alford, President
National Black Chamber of Commerce



Ron Busby, Sr., President
U.S. Black Chamber, Inc.

CC:

Commissioner Minyon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell